

NEWS RELEASE

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Executive Director Spends Day in Nation's Capital Sharing State's Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Concerns

Visit Part of National Criminal Justice Association's Hill Day

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. – Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) Executive Director, Mike Cunegin visited Capitol Hill last week to share Indiana criminal justice and homeland security concerns with key congressional aides and committees.

The visit was part of the National Criminal Justice Association's (NCJA) annual Hill Day. NCJA's Hill Day gives members the chance to share their state's concerns on the criminal justice system, including policies to reduce and prevent crime. NCJA also provides federal criminal justice funding through the Byrne/JAG grant program.

"It was very important for a representative from Indiana to attend this important meeting," Cunegin said. "I was able to voice concerns and share ideas from the State of Indiana that will ultimately make it a safer place to live."

In Indiana, federal Byrne/JAG dollars have been used to fund drug task forces, drug prosecutors, and drug courts. Funding has also been provided for programs that offer an alternative to incarceration and the Indiana State Police methamphetamine suppression unit.

In recent years Byrne/JAG funding has suffered drastic cuts. This funding is critical in reducing and preventing crime, responding to crime, and providing victim services. Cunegin is working with other state and federal leaders as well as NCJA to ensure Indiana gets the money it needs to make the state safer.

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ICJI is a member agency of the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA). NCJA exists to promote the development of justice systems in states, tribal national, and units of local government that enhance public safety; prevent and reduce the harmful effects of criminal and delinquent behavior on victims, individuals and communities; adjudicate defendants and sanction offenders fairly and justly; and that are effective and efficient.

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